

THE FLYER



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February 21, 2012

Salisbury University's Student Voice

Online exclusives at www.theflyer.com

Editorial

'I'd let Chris Brown beat me'

Tweets on Chris Brown's performance at the Grammys raise concerns about society.

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Gull Life

Magic in sports

Students recreate the wizarding world through muggle-style Quidditch.

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Sports

The NBA reaches halfway mark

Teams battle for top spots and Jeremy Lin's press.

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Same-sex marriage bill passes in House

BY JAMES TOWNSEND
News Writer

After years of lobbying, proponents of same-sex marriage achieved a narrow and important victory in the struggle for equality in Maryland late Friday afternoon.

The bill, the Civil Marriage Protection Act of 2012, scarcely passed with a difference of 72 to 67 in the Md. House of Delegates, the same place it was shot down only one year ago.

Amidst growing support, the act will move on to the Md. Senate, where it is expected to pass. Then only the signature of Governor Martin O'Malley would be required to sign it into law, legalizing same-sex marriage. Hopes are high, as Gov. O'Malley promised to sign the bill if it ever made it to his desk.

The fight will not stop there, however. Opponents have already vowed to bring the issue to a referendum, allowing Marylanders to vote on the bill in November, before it becomes law on Jan. 1st, 2013.

What Marylanders will decide come November is still a mystery. Despite the state's highest rated support for same-sex marriage, as reported by the Washington Post, recent history is enough to keep hopefuls skeptical.

In the traditionally liberal state of California, a referendum vote called Prop 8 drew millions to the polls in 2008 to vote against and successfully overturn the legalization of same-sex marriage. However, a second overturning came only a few weeks ago from the Circuit Courts of California, ruling Prop 8 unconstitutional.

While appeals are in still process, it has many wondering whether or not a referendum in other states, including Maryland, will hold up in the long run.

On Feb. 13, the Student Government Association, the Graduate Student Council and the Institution for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement brought the discussion to the student body in an open forum with the question "Should Gays Marry?"

The modest turn out soon found itself at an impasse, with the realization that almost all of the students and faculty who showed up were in favor of the bill. Karen Rayne, an English

See MARRIAGE Page 2

Bike lane planned for Bateman



Justin Odendhal photo

Senior Chris Goullart rides his custom-made bicycle down Bateman Street on Monday afternoon. Goullart, along with many other SU students, must battle with traffic while biking to and from school.

BY KATELYN DRAPER
Staff Writer

Kevin Rowe, a senior dual majoring in economics and environmental studies, has proposed a plan to make the intersection of Bateman Street, Onley Road and South Division Street safer for bikers.

The intersection is an inevitable route for students living in University Village, The Seasons and Cedar Crossing apartments. This living area, with a high concentration of students, is accompanied by an awkward infrastructure that poses risks to bikers, pedestrians and drivers.

The hazardous crossroad forces

bikers to ride illegally against the flow of traffic and sometimes on the sidewalk with the possibility of injuring a pedestrian. Rowe sat outside of Maggs Gym and said it was easy to receive 400 signatures on his petition to promote a safe, physically and environmentally healthy way for students to get to campus.

In fact, Bateman Street is the starting point for Wicomico County's largest one-day tourism event, Sea Gull Century. According to WMDT, the ride boosts the local economy by \$2.5 million each year.

"This tiny stretch of Bateman is relatively insignificant in the 100-mile stretch of the route," Rowe said. "But it's the starting point of the ride and a starting point for the City of Salisbury to make a change for the better."

SU is now working with the State Highway Administration, with the approval of the City Council, to turn Bateman Street into a one way street between South Division Street and Wayne Street. There will also be a traffic signal for pedestrian crossing constructed on Onley Road. Construction will commence on July 4 and last for an estimated 60 days, in time for the fall semester.

The city is also taking precautions on Milford Street by adding crosswalks at University Park by the railroad tracks and the University Fitness Center. There is also the possibility of improving or moving the crosswalk located by TETC that crosses Camden Avenue.

"This is not only a convenience to the college students, but an improvement to a heavily pedestrian (and) biker traffic area," Rowe said. "(It's) a preventive measure against tragic accidents on a city street, and a small but significant step towards making SU and the city of Salisbury a greener environment."

Film series to showcase international cultures

BY COREY NETHEN
Staff Writer

Students are engaged in international media more than they probably think.

The next time someone covertly pulls out their iPhone in class and opens "Angry Birds," they probably have no idea that this best-selling game was actually developed in Finland.

Over the next few weeks, Salisbury University will give students, faculty and the local community a chance to get a more intimate look at a number of cultures in the form of film.

A series of foreign films titled "Bridges to the World" will be hosted by World Artists Experiences and the International Division of Maryland's Office of the Secretary of State. This is SU's fourth annual screening of the series, and they are one of five schools chosen for screening.

Each film is chosen by the respective country's embassy and will include an introduction from a native facilitator followed by a discussion and Q&A after the picture. Regional refreshments are offered after the showing. After Japan's "Hula Girls" was shown, guests were served fresh slices of grapefruit in gel with hot green tea.

"Viewing a culture's cinema shows you volumes about those people," said Theatre Technical Director and Lighting Designer Tom

Anderson. "Everything a culture knows about themselves, they express in their art."

"Viewing a culture's cinema shows you volumes about those people... Everything a culture knows about themselves, they express in their art."
- Theatre Technical Director and Lighting Designer Tom Anderson.

The next three films shown will be from Sri Lanka, Brazil and Turkey.

Cultural Affairs Director June Krell-Salgado

has been working tirelessly to make sure events like these open up student's minds and imaginations.

"Technology has made the world so small," Krell-Salgado said. "We're working to help people understand and promote peace, mutual respect and dialogue among nations."

The theme of this spring's events will be "free form." A few cultural events have already occurred on campus this semester. Sitarist Hari Sharma's performance in the Great Hall attracted an audience that filled the entire room, intrigued to hear his mesmerizing sound.

The House of Sand, which will be shown March 5, takes place in Brazil's Maranhão desert.

"It's interesting what people learn in these movies," Krell-Salgado said. "Most people imagine rainforests when they think of Brazil, they have no idea these deserts exist."

BREAKING NEWS

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BY RAMIN GOUHARI
Staff Writer

Temps flared over a new towing ordinance at a City Council Meeting on Monday night.

The ordinance comes amidst growing outcry from Salisbury locals who believe they are paying too much for standard towing services. A \$30 administration fee would have been removed from towing agencies used by the Salisbury police.

"These fees apply only to tows where police call companies and ask them to respond. It isn't fair and just for our consumers to be charged a \$30 administration fee after they've already paid over \$300 in some cases," said City Council Vice President Deborah Campbell.

Campbell's comments infuriated several local automotive company owners who attended the meeting to make sure their voices were heard.

"It's not fair and square. You want us to work for nothing," said Gary Pusey, owner of Gary Pusey's Quality Cars.

He accused the council of having an anti-business agenda due to their stance with consumers, but went on to explain that removing the fees would only hurt them personally.

"We're not here for our health, we're here to

make a living and frankly it seems some people on this council are educated beyond their intelligence," he said.

"It's not fair and square. You want us to work for nothing."

- Gary Pusey, owner of Gary Pusey's Quality Cars.

Pusey's remarks led many in the automotive industry who seemed disgusted with the council's attempts to intrude on their businesses during a sensitive economy.

"After two years, I thought we finally put this thing to bed. We need this \$30," said Kenny Mills, Fruitland resident and business associate to Pusey. "We're looking for a fair shake."

After Pusey and Mills' remarks, city councilman Tim Spies withdrew his support of the amend-

ment, forcing the board to discuss the ordinance further.

"This industry says it is not going to work for them but I do feel Ms. Campbell's comments were justified when she hears from clients who have been mistreated again and again," said Council President Terry Cohen.

What first began as a question as to what fees were fair to charge in the towing industry, soon became a heated attack on personal politics.

"You have to take into account that we spend \$70,000 just on the truck and tires. There's no room for profit after all the expenses build up," said Richard Parsons, owner of Richard Parsons Inc.

"The more you talk, the deeper you dig your hole. This has been absolutely disgraceful, and I do not agree with your liberal ways," Pusey said.

The Council continued to discuss the ordinance and eventually sided with the auto industry in a four-to-one split. While Campbell's attempts to represent public outcry over the fees was spirited, she was ultimately unsuccessful as the amendment was struck down by the big automotive players who showed up in full force.

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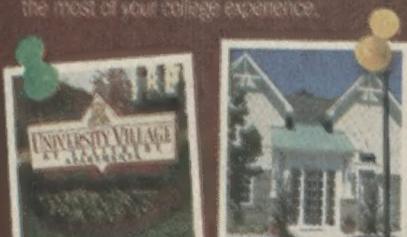
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Marriage

Continued from Pg 1

County delegates Michael A. McDermott and Norman H. Conway both voted against the bill. However, an aid in Conway's office admitted the delegate remained undecided until the last minute.

While few members of the opposition were in attendance, support for marriage equality appears to be a rising trend among Salisbury University students.

In an article in last week's issue of The Flyer, titled "Marriage Equality Close for Marylanders," graduate student Julia Glanz estimated that 90 percent of the students she talked to on campus signed her petition to support the legalization of same-sex marriage. An online poll conducted by The Flyer also found 100 percent of participants in favor.

Despite the support on SU's campus, Wicomico

"(The debate is) just silly. I have yet to hear one secular reason to deny a gay couple to get married," Oberly said at the open forum last week. "America is a secular country. People are going to realize that soon."

- Senior, Matt Oberly

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ASSAULT (OFF-CAMPUS)
Student reported he was assaulted while at the Monkey Barrel. Incident was forwarded to Salisbury City Police.

2/19/2012
4:00 - 10:45 p.m.
MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY
Staff member reported malicious damage to the baseball field specialty light.

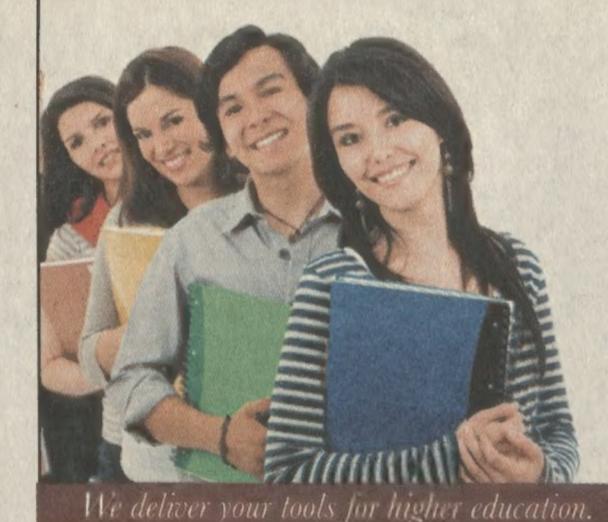
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Resident Assistant reported a CDS violation in Seven Hall. The incident was forwarded to Student Affairs.



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Continued from Pg 1

department faculty member, observed the same.

"This really isn't much of a discussion," Rayne said. "It's more of a cheerleading for gay marriage."

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Volume 40 Issue 1

EDITORIAL

February 21, 2012

Overheard: What else would you like to see in Sea Gull Square?

Photos by Pete Hicks



"Chuck E. Cheese."
- Felix Francis, freshman



"Cracker Barrel would be awesome, and could provide jobs for college students."
- Andrea Schwientek, sophomore



"There should be a day spa for people who are really, really ridiculously good-looking."
- Cody Trenary, sophomore



"An Italian place."
- Kyonna Powell, junior



"Maybe a mini-supermarket"
- Michael Chun, freshman

The Flyer

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Editorial Policy: Letters are welcomed and encouraged. Students, please include your name and your class. Faculty members, please include your department. Letters should be no longer than 400 words. The Flyer reserves the right to refrain from publishing any text. Deadline for submission is Wednesday at 5 p.m. Please email us the letters.

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The Flyer strives for accuracy and corrects its errors immediately. Corrections will always be printed on this page. If you believe The Flyer has printed a factual error, please email us.

We will always love you, Whitney Houston

Houston had died at the young age of 48.

In lieu of the news, the reactions of people have been mixed, as some believe that her alleged drug and alcohol abuse detracts from the amount of sympathy fans should have. However, their grief is not misplaced as Whitney Houston was one of the most influential singers of our generation.

Houston was nominated for an estimated 526 achievement awards throughout her career including six Grammys, two Emmys and 30 Billboard Music awards.

She has been awarded 99 times by the Record Industry Association of America and has produced 11 No. 1 hits, being surpassed only by other legendary artists such as The Beatles, with 20 No. 1s, and Michael Jackson, with 13 No. 1 hit songs.

The song "I Will Always Love You," although written by Dolly Parton, was made famous by Houston. Her soulful control and incredible range allowed her to carry the song to its full potential.

Other recognizable songs such as "I Wanna Dance with Somebody" and "How Will I Know?" blew

Houston's highest of notes.

Houston's image up as a powerful force to be reckoned with in the music industry in the 80s and early 90s.

Though drugs and alcohol may have caused Houston to stop producing hits during the late 90s, one vice does not erase a god-given talent that many only dream of having.

Even if you haven't listened to Houston's greatest hits album on repeat since her death, let those who do cherish her career as one of the best do so peacefully; no matter their highest attempts to hit Houston's highest of notes.

The beginning of the semester is a beautiful time to be a student.

Health Report

When dining at the Commons, keep healthy choices in mind.

BY AMANDA BIEDERMAN
Gull Life Editor

Thirty-five percent of Salisbury University students are required to purchase a meal plan to eat the notoriously unhealthy food at The Commons.

The buffet-style food selections are convenient. However, it is important to keep nutritional values

At the Commons:
Chicken burritos,
stuffed shell pasta
and pork

barbeque ribs all
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Chicken burritos, stuffed shell pasta and pork barbecue ribs all contain more than 500 calories per serving. One serving of meat lasagna is 1,100 Calories.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the average teenager should consume 2,000 to 3,000 calories per day.

So it's possible to blow all of those calories after two servings of lasagna at dinner. However, there

are many ways to stay healthy while enjoying the convenience of The Commons.

Plan out meals in advance. Twice a year, Dining Services releases a newsletter with its menu for the entire semester. Decide what to get before leaving the dorm. If you're feeling ambitious, go to the Dining Services' website and look up nutritional facts and figures. That way, you'll know if the foods are too high in calories or fat.

Go for fresh fruits and veggies. The Commons has a salad bar, as well as a fruit stand. There are also other options in The Bistro. It's always good to add fruits and vegetables to any meal; they're healthy, and they fill you up so you won't over-eat on high-fat foods.

Minimize condiments. Too much cheese and dressing on a salad can add nearly 500 calories to a healthy side-dish.

Avoid Gold N Crispy. Dining Services doesn't even include information about the kiosk on their website, but there's no way to find anything healthy there. If you go there, do it sparingly. Lotta Pasta and Pete's Za Pie can both add up if you're not careful. Healthier options include the new Plato's Plate and the Kozi Kitchen.

The best way to make healthy food choices is to stay informed. Know how many calories are in a certain food, and plan the rest of your meal accordingly.

For more information, contact the on-campus dietitian Kate Cerulli at: <http://www.salisbury.edu/dining/dietitianform.html>.

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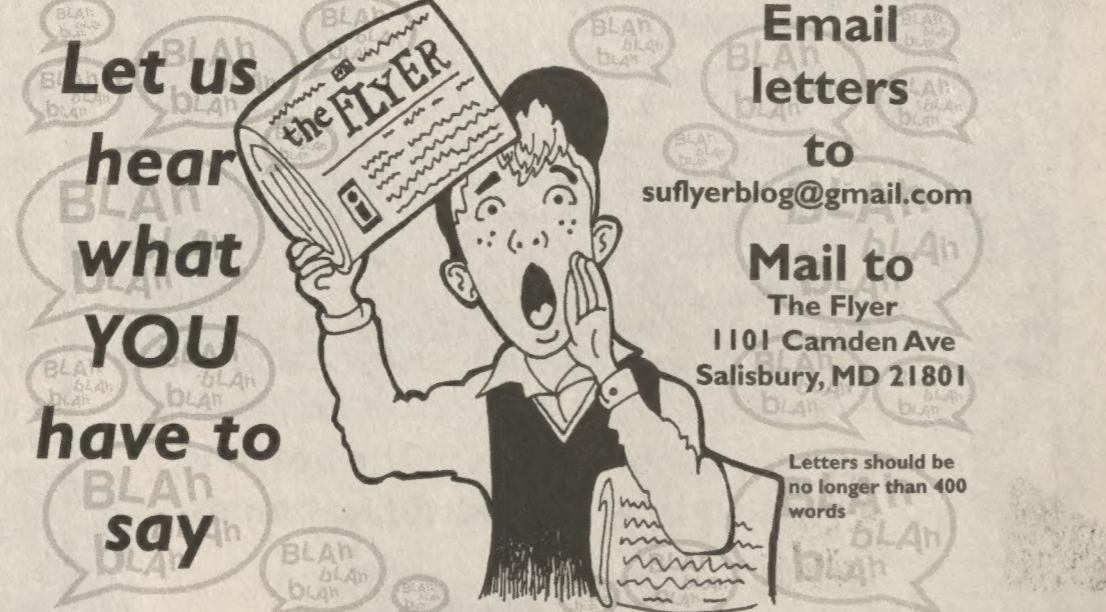
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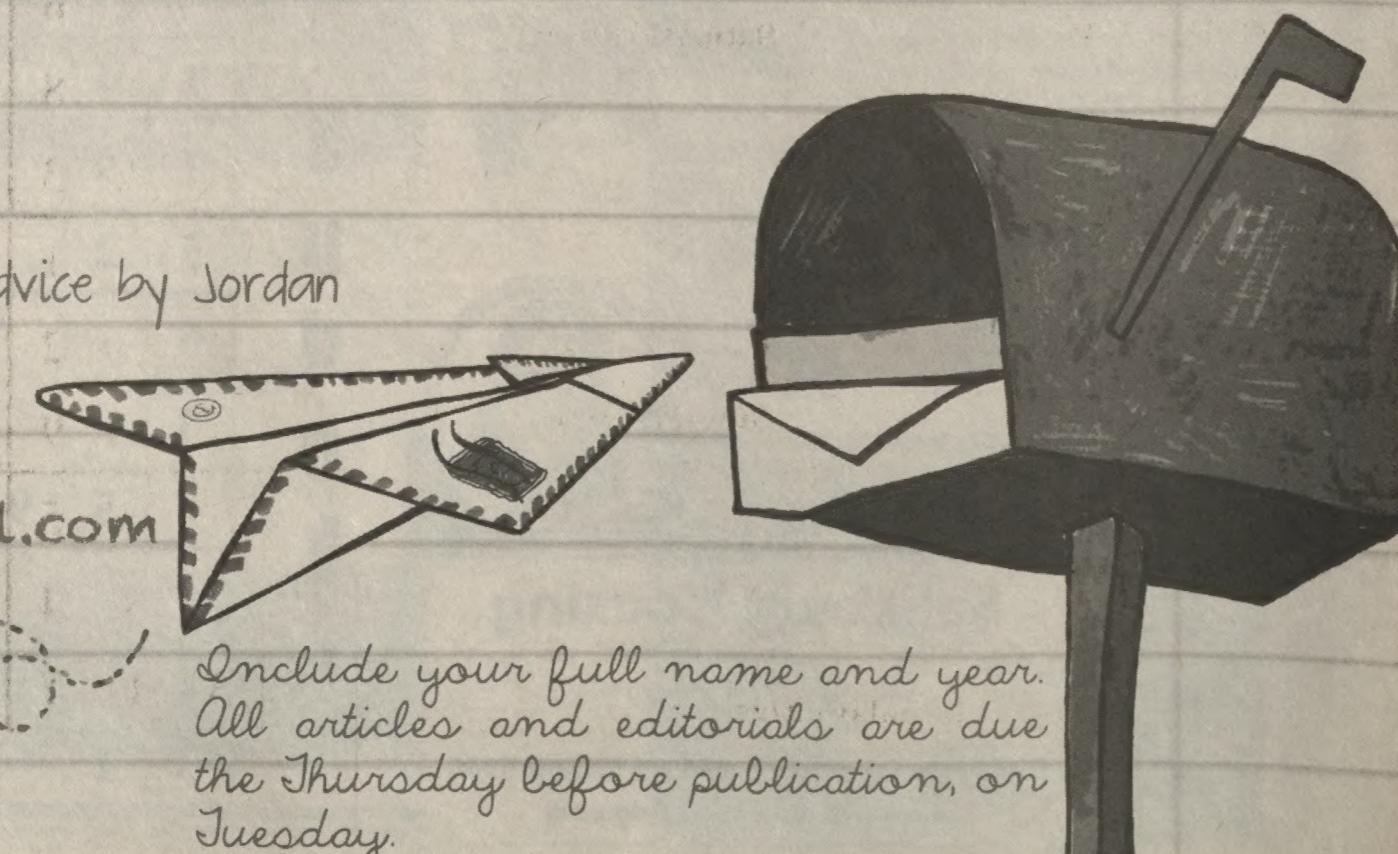
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Meme trend hits Salisbury

BY JESSIE KARANGU
Staff Writer

Over the last few months there have been many different Facebook sensations from planking and owing to coming.

But there's a new trend sweeping colleges everywhere, and the bug has just caught on at Salisbury University. It's a meme page full of humor that only SU students would understand called "Salisbury University Memes."

As About.com puts it, a meme is basically a virtually-transmitted cultural symbol or social idea. The term originates from author Richard Dawkins, who came up with the word while discussing evolution in his 1976 book "The Selfish Gene."

Memes can use pictures or video to relay a funny message or saying that may or may not relate to the attached video or picture.

Many early YouTube users will remember the fad known as "Rick-rolling," where the user would click

to watch a video but instead of getting the desired clip, the user would be forced to listen to 80's pop star Rick Astley sing "Never Gonna Give You Up."

Credit for Salisbury's viral sensation goes to freshman Michelle Ferré, who saw a similar meme page from her friends at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

While discussing the page, Ferré realized it was becoming the new fad at majority of colleges.

The page was launched on Feb. 10 and reached over a thousand likes in under two weeks.

When asked how she felt about communication over social media sites versus in real life, Ferré said it is an inevitable phenomenon of modern culture.

"People are more comfortable communicating via technology than face-to-face. Obviously that's not a good thing, but it's the direction our society is headed, whether we like it or not," she said. "It'll be very interesting to see in the future not only where this page heads but where society heads as we begin to engage more and more through technology."

Some of the most popular posts from the page have included memes saying: "The book cost you \$250? The best I can do is \$5," addressing students at the buying back books program and "We should take all the campus police and make them fight real crime," addressing the increase in party busts over the past two semesters.

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Local shelter supports the homeless

BY BRIANNA WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

A group of men talk amongst themselves as they wait for dinner, helping themselves to coffee, hot cocoa and snacks.

One immediately takes his place on a bed after proclaiming his fatigue due to his walk from Fruitland.

For these men, the opportunity to eat a hot meal and lay on a soft bed is not always possible. Belinda White, head coordinator for the men's homeless shelter at the Community of Joy church, explains that the purpose of the shelter is to help the men through encouragement.

"These people need love, understanding and grace," White said. "Some have made bad choices and some have just fallen on bad luck."

Something you say could make a difference." - Belinda White, head coordinator for the men's homeless shelter at the Community of Joy church.

community as well as a table with various personal items, toiletries and coats that the men are free to take. Around 5 p.m. men begin to come in to register and prepare for dinner.

The men's shelter rotates through several local churches each year from February to March. Community of Joy was the first to host the

board games.

Ann Himes, coordinator for St. Francis' shelter, is still in need of volunteers for overnight shifts during their second week. Himes is expecting 30 to 40 men and is still accepting mature, serious volunteers for anyone who would like to help.

"It's a good experience," said

Himes. "Volunteering can help you become more aware of the people in your world."

SU senior Becca Mastrippolito volunteered at the shelter last year. Although she is not going this year, Mastrippolito is making cookies for the men and recommends the experience to anyone who wants to make a difference.

"I enjoyed bringing a smile to their faces," she said. "And (I) hope that what I did somehow made their lives better."

Volunteers participate in a number of duties including serving, cleaning and just spending time with the guests by playing card and

shelter. This week, St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church will take on the task.

Members of Salisbury University's Catholic Campus Ministry will be volunteering at St. Francis for the next two weeks to help with the shelter. The students will be staying overnight to help serve and accommodate their guests.

"You'd be surprised," said CCM Minister Regina Yankalunas. "These aren't just mentally impaired. Most are talented and have just fallen on hard luck. It provides perspective."

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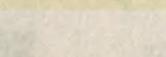
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